

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 471

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Suzanne Rushworth, on her selection as the Tennessee winner of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution's Outstanding Teacher of American History.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Suzanne Rushworth is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, a teacher at Hixson High School, Mrs. Rushworth has recently been selected as Tennessee's Outstanding Teacher of American History by the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, nominated by members of the Judge David Campbell Chapter of the DAR, she was one of eight finalists; the award was conferred during a luncheon with DAR delegates held on April 25, 2009, in Franklin, where Mrs. Rushworth delivered an address entitled "When People are Encouraged, Things Happen"; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Chattanooga High School, Suzanne Rushworth received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, she has served with acumen and alacrity as a high school teacher for thirty-five exemplary years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rushworth learned of civic responsibility and the duties and privileges of citizenship early in life; her parents urged their children to participate in activities that instilled the skills and virtues that guide the active citizen; and

WHEREAS, in her classroom today, Mrs. Rushworth includes activities and assignments designed to encourage active citizenship in her students; for instance, thanks to the Newspapers in Education Program, her students are regularly exposed to the issues and events of the day, introducing them to the democratic norm of an informed citizenry; and

WHEREAS, whether she is working with students in an Advanced Placement United States history class, a psychology class, or a sociology class, Mrs. Rushworth draws her students into the larger narrative of the discipline by telling the small stories that help make these subjects interesting to teenagers; and

WHEREAS, according to Ginny Kidd, Head of the Social Studies Department at Hixson High, Mrs. Rushworth brings great enthusiasm and energy to her classroom, motivating her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Suzanne Rushworth truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, her many professional accomplishments aside, Suzanne Rushworth is most appreciative of the love, support, and companionship she shares with her husband, Rick Rushworth, Assistant Principal at Lookout Valley Middle/High School; together, the couple have one son, Marshall, and two daughters, Dr. Elizabeth Bradford and Rachel Rushworth; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rushworth truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Suzanne Rushworth on her selection as the Tennessee winner of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution's Outstanding Teacher of American History, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.